GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM AND CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6102
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2003
EXCAVATION DURING NINTH PLAN
A. VENKATESH NAIK;ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL;RAMSHETH THAKUR

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the excavation conducted by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) during the Ninth Five Year Plan is far less than that conducted during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) If so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether a number of survey reports on excavations have not been recorded which render the entire excavation process useless;

(d) if so, the reasons for not recording the important data;

(e) the expenditure incurred on excavation during the last three years; and

(f) the funds earmarked for excavation during the year 2003-2004?

Answer

MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN)

(a) No,Sir. During the Ninth Five Year Plan, the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) conducted excavation at 72 sites whereas during the Eighth Five Year Plan only 38 sites were attended; thus, actually there has been an increase in the number of sites .

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Mandatory reports under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites andRemains Rules, 1959, on the excavations conducted up to 1997-98 have been published in the issues of the Indian Archaeology-A Review (IAR), an ASI annual report. TheIAR for 1998-99 is in press while the remaining ones are under preparation and editing.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The expenditure incurred on excavation during the last three years was Rs.804 lakhs.

(f) Rs.300 lakhs has been earmarked for excavation during the year 2003-04.